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News Release

Member of “Little Rock Nine” to speak at UMC

By Elizabeth Tollefson on Tuesday, March 22, 2005

The University of Minnesota Crookston (UMC) will host Minnijean Brown Trickey on Wednesday, March 30, at 8:00 pm in the Kiehle Auditorium. Admission for the presentation will be \$2.00 for the general public and free for UMC students.

In the summer of 1957, the city of Little Rock, Arkansas, planned to desegregate its public schools. On September 25, Minnijean Brown Trickey and eight other young African-American students crossed the threshold of Little Rock Central High under the protection of 1,000 members of the 101st Airborne Division of the United States Army. Central High was the city's first high school to desegregate after the Brown vs. Board of Education ruling in May of 1954. This group of young African-Americans became known as the "Little Rock Nine."

Brown Trickey has spent her life fighting for the rights of minority groups and the dispossessed. For her work, she has received the U.S. Congressional Medal, the Wolf Award, the Spingarn Medal, and many other citations and awards. Under the Clinton administration, she served for a time as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior responsible for diversity. Currently, she lives in Arkansas, and continues her work for civil rights and social equality. She is also working on her autobiography, tentatively entitled, Mixed Blessing: Living Black in North America.

To learn more about Brown Trickey visit: < <http://www.thelavinagency.com/college/minnijeanbrown-trickey.html>>.

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